

Habitat Features:

Lotic/Lentic: Impounded throughout most of the winter and spring, but returning to floodplain and free-flowing stream during at least parts of the summer
Depth/Width: Depth of the impoundment was not measured but is probably at least waist deep over most of its extent.
Flow Rate: Minimal while impounded; moderate to slow during the summer
Water Quality/Clarity: Turbid when observed
Bank Condition: Unknown
Insolation: Canopy is still complete over most of the impoundments.
Substrate(s): Sand and silt
Emergent Vegetation: None observed
Woody Debris: Probably substantial
Other Shelter: Negligible

Landscape Features:

Stream Classification: 2nd order small river (5-25 m)
Connections to Other Intact Reaches: Stream habitats upstream along the New Hope are recovering; Third Fork Creek joins New Hope between NC 751 and I-40 and still contains un-impounded floodplain and stream habitats.
Integrity of Adjoining Forests: Good, but timbering is planned for certain sections by the NC Wildlife Resources

Threats and Disturbances:

DEM Water Quality Ratings: Probably Fair above I-40 (DEM, 1991); Poor below the outfall for the Farrington Wastewater Plant
Sources of Pollution: Farrington Waste Water Plant discharges into New Hope Creek immediately below I-40.
Barriers to Migration: Upstream movements are probably blocked for all but the strongest swimming fish during the winter when the sluice gates are raised; however, travel is probably unrestricted during most of the year, including the spring and summer spawning season.
Potential for Impoundment, Flow Alteration or Draining: Natural hydrology has been completely altered due to seasonal impounding.